News Notes
from the COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE U.S.A.
257 FOURTH AVENUE NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

addressed to those who are concerned with Christianity and Higher Education

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CONFERENCE OF CHURCH COLLEGE PUBLIC RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

FRENCH LICK, INDIANA JULY 12, 1959

(This conference precedes the opening of the Annual Conference of the American College Public Relations Association, July 12, 1959), and was prepared by the Committee on Public Relations of the Commission on Higher Education of the National Council of Churches.

PROGRAM

3 - 4 p.m., Registration (no charge) Roost Room

4:00 p.m., Devotional

4:15 p.m., Address - "THINGS WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT TODAY'S STUDENTS"
Edward D. Eddy, Vice President and Provost, University of New Hampshire

Discussion

5:15 p.m., Reports - The Council of Protestant Colleges and Universities - National Christian College Day

Dr. Hubert C. Noble, General Director, Commission on Higher Education - National Council of Churches

6:00 p.m., Dinner - (Tickets are included in ACPRA registration)

Table discussion of afternoon topics

7:30 p.m., Address - "SO YOUR COLLEGE IS CHRISTIAN!"
Landrum R. Bolling, President, Earlham College

8:00 p.m., Panel Discussion - "IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR"
Dr. Edward D. Eddy - Vice President and Provost, University of New Hampshire
Dr. Landrum R. Bolling - President, Earlham College
Robert Long, Dean of Students, Wittenberg College
Frank Ashmore, Director of Public Relations, Randolph-Macon Women's College

9:15 p.m., Adjournment

...."Communism will not be finally overthrown until its ideas be defeated and it is in the higher realm of man's spirit that we must preserve our God-given freedoms and the essential dignity of the human person. I have encountered eloquent proof in many countries of the assertion that human life is influenced, even dominated, by the thinking of intellectual leaders. It is for this reason that the Church must be active in the highest levels of intellectual and scientific pursuits."

-- Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi

MORE ON FACULTY NEEDS

"Better Utilization of College Teaching Resources" is the title of a report issued by the Fund for the Advancement of Education (477 Madison Avenue, New York 22.) The report emphasized again the need for our taking action to encourage young people to enter the teaching profession. "The realistic alternatives are a decline in the quality of education." A committee of our Commission has drawn up a plan of action that has been approved but necessary funds to set it in motion have not yet been made available.

SURVEY OF THE GRADUATE STUDENTS

Dr. Hans Rosenhaupt has made a large-scale survey of graduate students covering more than 30,000 graduate students at Columbia U. from 1920 to 1956, it shows that graduate schools need to produce more college teachers. Dr. Rosenhaupt found that it takes about 5.3 years to receive the doctorate in chemistry, but twice that long to receive one in English. It should normally take 3 years, according to Jacques Barzun, Dean of Columbia's graduate faculties. The former degree and those in other sciences are won more quickly because such students receive over 2/3 of funds awarded. Directors of study found that the longer the process takes, the greater the casualties along the way. Working students were able to take fewer courses; and about 3/4 of non-veterans starting on a part-time basis never attained a degree. Students from small and little-known colleges were about as successful in winning degrees as were those from the most famous institutions. Of those entering from 1940 to 1949, only 9% to 16% completed the process by 1956.

Some excellent summer conferences and institutes are in prospect during the coming weeks.

NASHVILLE INSTITUTE

The Methodist 14th Institute of Higher Education to be held at Nashville, July 27-29 invites Presidents, Deans, and other administrative officers to a busy program of sessions, workshops and addresses in fund-raising, financial aid to students, preparation for Foreign Work, Recruiting Students, College Administration, the Idea of a Christian College and other practices and problems in Christian Higher Education. (Write Board of Education, Methodist Church, P.O. Box 871, Nashville 2, Tennessee)

UTAH CONFERENC

The Utah Conference on Higher Education will be held at Westminster College, Salt Lake City, September 17-19. Speakers will be Dr. Ernest Colwell and Dr. Philip Wheelwright both of Southern California. Theme: "Higher Education and the Nature of Man." (Write M. C. Ballinger, Westminster College, Salt Lake City, Utah)

FACULTY CONFERENC

The Sixth Annual Southeastern States Faculty Conference will be held at Montreat, North Carolina, August 25-29. Theme: "Faith & Education in a Changing World." (Write to Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church, U.S., Richmond, Virginia.)

We have called attention before to the availability (free) of "Abstracts of Doctoral dissertations in Religious Education" for the years 1952-53 and 53-54. We now have these for 1954-55 and 55-56. Write to this office. Those for 1957-58 have been printed in Religious Education (545 West 111th Street, New York 25, New York.)

We list here a number of new publications of general and specific interest in our area of concern.

1. Spotlight on the College Student, 1959 $1.00 - American Council on Education
A discussion of the findings and implications of the Jacob report by David Riesman, Phillip Jacob and Nevitt Sanford

2. Studying the Effects of College Education, Hazen Foundation 1959 - A critical examination of the Jacob study by Allan Barton of the Bureau of Applied Social Research, Columbia University

3. The Efficiency of Freedom - Report of the Committee on Government and Higher Education $1.00 - The John Hopkins Press. Baltimore 1959. Available also are the Research Findings of the Staff of the Committee

4. Religion and the State University - An Interpretation of the (Michigan) Conference The Journal of Higher Education, Ohio State Univ. Press, April 1959. Columbus 10, Ohio

5. Legal and Other Critical Issues of Religion in Public Higher Education - A Symposium Religious Education Association 1959 545 W. 111th St. N.Y. 25

6. Religion and the Schools, Robert Gordis, Wm. Gorman, Ernest Johnson and Robert Lekachman The Fund for the Republic, 1959

7. The Faith, the Church, and the University - A report of a Conversation among (Episcopal) University Christians, 1959 Forward Movement Publications, Cincinnati, Ohio

8. Memo to a College Trustee - A Report on Financial and Structural Problems of the Liberal College: Beardsley Ruml and Donald H. Morrison. McGraw-Hill Book Company 1959

9. A Basis for Study - A Theological Prospectus for the Campus Ministry - Symposium by Presbyterian University Pastors - Department of Campus Christian Life of the United Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia and The Presbyterian Church U. S., Richmond, 1959

10. Knowledge is Not Enough - Views on Higher Education: Samuel B. Gould, 1959 The Antioch Press, Yellow Springs, Ohio

11. College and University Trusteeship: Morton A. Rauh, 1959, The Antioch Press

12. The Beginnings of Graduate Education in America: Richard J. Storr, University of Chicago Press, 1953

13. Theological Explanation: G. F. Woods (Fellow and Chaplain of Downing College, Cambridge, James Nisbet and Co. Digswell Place, Welwyn) A study of the Meaning and Means of Explaining in Science, History and Theology.

14. The Theology of Culture - Paul Tillich, Oxford University Press, 1959.

15. Preparing for the Ministry: Charles F. Kemp, Bethany Press, 1959. A helpful publication dealing with Vocational choice meaning of "call", the ministry of church vocations, educational requirements, etc.

16. A History of Catholic Higher Education in the United States: Edward J. Power, Bruce Publishing Co., Milwaukee, 1958

It is with keen anticipation that we look forward to the Constituting Assembly of the National Student Christian Federation to take place at Oberlin College, September 5th - 11th, 1959. This merger unites in one body the educational student movement concerns of U.S.C.C. with the historic mission concerns of the Student Volunteer Movement and the ecumenical concerns of the Interseminary Movement. It is symbolic that the first major enterprise of the new movement is participation in the world-wide "Life and Mission of the Church" project of the World Student Christian Federation.

CONSTITUTING ASSEMBLY OF THE NATIONAL STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION-OBERLIN

The Assembly itself will be an important event. Among the speakers are D. T. Niles, The Honorable Arthur Fleming, Robert Spike and J. Robert Nelson

In the last issue of News Notes we referred to a leaflet listing the back issues of The Christian Scholar that are available. We are somewhat perturbed that no one wrote in asking why the leaflet wasn't included. We don't know either, but we're trying again and hope you get it this time.

"SCHOLARS" AVAILABLE AGAIN

President Van Dusen of Union Seminary, New York, recently put into words a concern felt by many of us who seek to relate the church to the academic community. "I have been struck (and disturbed) by two recent, entirely independent comments by distinguished European observers on the state of religion in America at the present time. Both affirm the widely recognized 'return' to religion.....Professor John Hick confesses that there is one feature of this interest in religion which troubles him deeply: 'Students' almost total unconcern with the issue of truth'.....Professor D. W. Brogan of Cambridge University, summarizes his impression, "Religion in the U. S. A., like many other things is booming.....That there is a genuine religious revival I do not doubt. I do doubt if the intellectual truce can be kept us indefinitely in which few people dare to ask "Is this true?'"

IS IT TRUE?

This concern clearly applies to the renewed concern for church colleges and religion on the campus. Unless we think through solid, theological grounds for this "revival" the university will again reject the churches efforts and our colleges as they develop strength and academic stature will again drift away.

NEEDED: THEOLOGICAL INSIGHT

We also share President Van Dusen's concern that "'The revival of religion' has thus far, been paralleled by no corresponding resurgence or recovery of morality." This we point up by referring to President Whitney Griswolds' castigation of the failure of so many of our colleges and universities to not only not eliminate but to fail to seriously grapple with the athletic scholarship scandal. He refers to what this "educational swindle" does to the student. "He has placed before him a hypocrisy that is accepted and supported by his university,the society around it and the alumni." Whatever rationalization a secular institution may be able to invent surely no institution that makes any claim to being Christian can continue to tolerate it.

"EDUCATIONAL SWINDLES"

When you relate this to Edward D. Eddy's conclusion that a decisive factor in the college influence upon students is the image of man represented by the teacher, dean or president, it is realized how serious it is when institutional leaders fail to stand for practices of unquestioned integrity.

With deep regret we announce the resignation of David Sageser as Executive Director of the Department of Christian Campus Life. Dave will be greatly missed not only in this office but on campuses across the country. He leaves to assume the pastorate of a university church in Cincinnati.

SAGESER TAKES PASTORATE

Hubert C. Noble
General Director C.H.E.